



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2005-05-0273

September 1, 2005

BUSINESS THEFT

Inspector General David O. Thomas reports to Governor Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., after an investigation by Special Agents Troy Stanton and Alan McElroy, as follows:

On May 13, 2005, Indiana Inspector General (“OIG”) Special Agents Troy Stanton and Alan McElroy were leaving the Brazil 70 Truck Plaza, having met there on their way to interview a witness in a pending bribery investigation.

An individual later identified as Cary Buchanan was wearing a blue and grey hooded pullover sweatshirt and was observed entering the business.

Buchanan grabbed some money left on a dining table by a previous customer and then fled the restaurant.

A pursuit ensued and Buchanan was apprehended at a nearby hotel, where he abruptly walked into a guest room where a house maid was cleaning the room. The house maid was startled and reported that she was greatly concerned about Buchanan’s actions. OIG Special Agent Stanton confronted Buchanan at the

hotel and advised him of his rights, and Buchanan stated that he understood his rights. Buchanan was then asked whether or not he stole the money from the table from within the restaurant. Buchanan initially lied and stated that he did not take the money, even though he admitted to being inside the building. OIG Special Agent Stanton informed Buchanan that he had personally observed him in the restaurant and that others within the building saw him take the money. Buchanan then admitted to taking the money, but claimed that he did not intentionally take the money. It was “like when you borrow a lighter and forget to give it back,” he stated.

Buchanan was taken back to the business where he was identified by patrons who witnessed him take the money. Buchanan was then escorted to OIG Special Agent Stanton’s vehicle. Buchanan was interviewed further about taking the money. Buchanan then stated that he did, in fact, intentionally steal the money. Buchanan further stated that he had also thought about going to neighboring businesses and attempting the same thing.

Buchanan was arrested and booked in at the local jail. Criminal charges of theft were filed the following day.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2005.


David Thomas, Inspector General